



# *Procurement Times*

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### ANSWER CONTRACT FACTOIDS!

2875 Task Orders  
\$4.13 B Funded Sales  
\$8.33 B Estimated Value

### MILLENNIA CONTRACT FACTOIDS!

110 Task Orders  
\$4.70 B Funded Sales  
\$8.74 B Estimated Value

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## ***ANSWER Contract Supports Hurricane Katrina Recovery Effort***

*Monti Jagers and Dave Blottie*

The Hurricane Katrina recovery effort is expected to be the largest federal agency relief effort in history and GSA's ANSWER GWAC contract vehicle is being used to provide support to our clients throughout the devastated Gulf area. Under task orders awarded to ANSWER contractor SAIC, contractor teams were operating throughout the storm and in its aftermath to provide our end clients with the critical IT services that are required to accomplish their missions and assist in recovery. These services addressed national security, environmental impact and health concerns.

As the storm ravaged Louisiana and Mississippi, the US Navy had a critical need to maintain its communications networks. Under the GSA Region 7 ANSWER task order, CK175440T4, which supports the Navy Reserve Intelligence Center in Ft Worth, TX, SAIC had staff members located at Navy facilities throughout the affected areas including New Orleans. The SAIC team, working with their Navy counterparts, was able to restore critical Sharepoint functions and maintain functions throughout the storm. As a result, the team received a letter of thanks from Admiral Ann Gilbride of the Naval Reserve Intelligence Command.

Immediately after the storm had passed and the extent of the damage became clear, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 6 called upon ANSWER contractor SAIC to provide electronic document retention support for the emergency response efforts in Louisiana as part of task order CK684414T4. SAIC's experience supporting the Space Shuttle Columbia recovery effort led to the call from EPA to support the Katrina's relief efforts. For the Columbia effort, SAIC developed and implemented a process for retaining and archiving emergency response Columbia recovery documentation complete with lesson's learned. As developed, the system allows response to an environmental emergency where a team can deploy to a remote location, set up a system for receiving documents electronically from the creators, converting them to a format recognized by the EPA data system and submit them via a Web-based document transportation tool that inserts the document information directly into the EPA retention database.

SAIC is also supporting the health assessment needs of Katrina victims, through one of several task orders supporting the Centers for Disease Control, Directors Emergency Operations Center Support (DEOC). SAIC has provided around the clock support at the DEOC since August 28<sup>th</sup>, creating and maintaining deployment rosters/teams, contact lists, and rotation schedules. Since August 30<sup>th</sup>, a DEOC Informatics Support Team representative has been deployed to Baton Rouge to provide field support for relief responders.

SAIC will continue to provide support to clients under whatever circumstances are required. The GSA GWACs are ideal for emergency response support given the flexibility of being able to perform procurements and modify task orders for services as special needs become evident.

## ***Stan Joosse Named Channel Leader in Washington Technology's Channel Leadership Award***

*Monti Jagers*

Stan Joosse, VP and ANSWER PM, ITS Corporation, was named Channel Leader in a recent issue of Washington Technology. The publication's first-ever Channel Leadership Awards recognizes Stan's stellar work on the ANSWER contract. ITS has won more than 300 task orders under the contract, which also has helped it grow from \$5 million a year in 1998 to a projected \$65 million in 2005.

***Proposed Amendment on Key Procurement Policy Issue Withdrawn****Monti Jagers*

A proposed amendment to the fiscal year 2006 Defense Authorization Bill (S. 1042), which would establish limitations on charges under DoD time-and-materials (T&M) and labor-hour contracts, has been withdrawn. Section 807 of the FY06 Defense Authorization Bill would have prohibited prime contractors from charging the government more than the rate their subcontractors charge them.

When the Senate resumed consideration of the FY06 defense authorization bill on November 4, as part of the agreement to resume debate, all amendments previously pending were withdrawn, including Section 807. If the Senate passes the FY06 Defense Authorization Bill, it will go to conference committee to resolve differences between the House and Senate versions.

The Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) raised the issue last year about a possible conflict between the FAR and the terms and conditions of T&M contracts, especially under the GSA Multiple Award Schedules (MAS) program. DCAA has issued auditing guidelines that limit the amount prime contractors could charge for subcontractors' work and the FAR Council is reviewing proposed clarifications to the FAR. Both GSA and DCAA are working together to solve the problem.

***ANSWER and Millennia Exceed Performance-Based Goals in FY05****Monti Jagers*

Both the ANSWER and Millennia contracts exceeded the OMB performance-based goal of 40% in FY05. The ANSWER OMB Report shows the number of task order statements of work written as performance-based increased from 60% to 70% in FY05. On the Millennia contract, 44% of the task order statements of work were written as performance-based.

Task orders were considered and reported as a performance-based service acquisition if more than 50 percent of the effort was performance-based. Outcomes are specified rather than the Government defining how the work is to be performed. Standards or performance criteria are set forth generally by each task or subtask.

According to the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP), performance-based contracting "emphasizes that all aspects of an acquisition be structured around the purpose of the work to be performed." It is important that contractors have input in determining how to best meet stated performance objectives, and to enable agencies to only pay for services that meet expected levels of quality. The secret to success in performance-based contracting is communication and a shared, defined goal.

***Enterprise GWAC Center Ranks High on FSS Business Partner Satisfaction Survey****Monti Jagers*

The results of the 2005 FSS Business Partner Satisfaction Survey are in and the Enterprise GWAC Center received an overall satisfaction index of 90 out of a possible 100, the highest score of all FSS business lines. As in the 2004 study, the Enterprise GWAC Center stands out in the survey results with particularly high scores in all components. The FSS survey used multiple-item indicators to assess drivers of satisfaction. The Enterprise GWAC Center scores for each category are shown below:

Contract Negotiations	94
Solicitation Process	92
Policies and Regulations	88
Information/Communication	97
GWAC Center	96

<b>Overall Satisfaction</b>	<b>90</b>
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***October/November Events*****Date:** October 18, 2005**Location:** Colorado Springs, CO**Event:** GWAC Training**Date:** October 31 – November 4**Location:** Atlanta, GA**Event:** Solutions Edu – "Writing a Statement of Objectives" Course**Date:** November 2-3 and 8-9**Location:** Fort Worth & San Antonio, TX; Atlanta, GA; and Huntsville, AL**Event:** GWAC Training***Enterprise GWAC Center POCs***

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